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# Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and California Dream Act

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# What is DACA?

- A program created by executive order under the Obama Administration
- It protected certain undocumented immigrants who entered the country as minors from deportation
- Eligible individuals could also get work permits for two-year terms
- Renewal of work permits and DACA status was available every two years



# What is the status of DACA?

- On September 5, 2017, U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced the Trump administration's rescission of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).



# When will DACA end?

- Unless Congress passes legislation to revive DACA in some form, the program will end March 5, 2018.



# How does the end of DACA affect currently protected individuals?

- Previously protected undocumented immigrants will technically be eligible for deportation and ineligible for work permits
- The Trump administration agreed to process pending DACA applications filed by September 5, 2017.



# How does the end of DACA affected currently protected individuals?

- Renewal applications for DACA had to be filed by October 5, 2017 to be considered.
- No DACA applications filed after October 5, 2017 will be considered.



# What are the consequences for students who were recipients of DACA?

- The ability of k-12 students who were recipients of DACA to attend school will not be affected by the end of DACA.
- The threat of deportation will likely be the most serious consequence of the change in policy for these students.



# What are the consequences for students who were recipients of DACA?

- The most serious consequence for higher education students, in addition to the threat of deportation, will be the inability to receive work permits and work lawfully in the U.S.
- The end of DACA will not impact California higher education students' eligibility for state financial aid





# What is the California Dream Act?

- Allows non-resident students who meet certain criteria to pay in-state, instead of out-of-state, tuition at California colleges and universities
- It gives California colleges and universities the authority to award institutional scholarships and state-based financial aid to undocumented students



# How does the California Dream Act work?

- Eligible students must meet certain criteria to pay in-state tuition and apply and compete for available awards as determined by the respective college or university.



# Who is eligible for the California Dream Act?

- To be eligible for aid and in-state tuition, students must meet the criteria set forth by AB 540 and AB 2000, codified as Education Code section 68130.5.



# Who is eligible for the California Dream Act?

- Attended high school in California for three (3) or more years, or
- Attained credits, earned in California from a California high school equivalent to three (3) or more years of full-time high school coursework and a total of three (3) or more years of attendance in California elementary or secondary schools, or a combination of those schools



# Who is eligible for the California Dream Act?

- Graduated from a California high school or attained the equivalent of it (e.g., GED).
- Registered as an entering student at, or is currently enrolled at, an accredited institution of higher education in California



# Who is eligible for the California Dream Act?

- If undocumented, file an affidavit with the institution of higher education stating that the student has filed an application to legalize his or her immigration status or will file an application as soon as he or she is eligible to do so.



# What do I need to apply?

- Complete California Dream Act Application (CADAA) and submit it to California Student Aid Commission (CSAC)
- Complete and submit a Non-SSN GPA Verification Form
  - Check with your college counselor to learn whether your school electronically uploads Non-SSN GPA Verification Forms to CSAC automatically



# What do I need to apply?

- Undocumented males 18 to 25 must submit a one-time registration form to the Selective Service, especially to be eligible for financial aid.
- In order to determine your financial need, CSAC may require your parents' name, income, wages, or other information. This depends on whether the student is a "dependent" for financial aid purposes.





# Why does the California Dream Act matter?

- ❑ Federal student aid for higher education is not available to undocumented students
- ❑ If you attend an eligible California public or private institution, you will be considered for California state financial aid
- ❑ Eligible students attending the University of California (UC) and the California State University (CSU) may be eligible for the Dream Loan.



# Application Timeline

- CADAA is usually available to students by October 1
- Eligible students must complete CADAA by March 2<sup>nd</sup>
- CADAA must be submitted every year



# Application Timeline

- Some programs have unique requirements like income guidelines, GPA minimums and/or separate applications besides the CADAA (e.g., Cal Grants). Check with your counselor.



# Will CSAC keep my information safe?

- “The information provided by the California Dream Act Application is used solely to determine eligibility for state financial aid and isn’t share with the federal government or used for immigration enforcement purposes. The CSAC will protect this information to the fullest extent of the law.”

Joint statement by CSAC and the California Department of Education



# Resources

- California Student Aid Commission, California Dream Act.

[http://www.csac.ca.gov/dream\\_act.asp](http://www.csac.ca.gov/dream_act.asp)



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